Application No. 10/789,355
Supplemental Response dated January 16, 2007

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### Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

# Listing of Claims:

- 1-8. (cancelled)
- 9. (previously presented) An isolated HCV self-replicating polynucleotide comprising:

  (a) a 5'-Non Translated Region;
  - (b) a HCV polynucleotide encoding for an HCV polyprotein that comprises: HCV NS3, NS4A, NS4B, NS5A, and NS5B polypeptides, which contains an amino acid substitution commonly designated as: G(2042)C-or G(2042)R, wherein the amino acid is numerated from the beginning of the coding region of I377/NS2-3' construct (EMBL genebank accession number No. AJ 242651); and (c) a 3'-Non Translated Region.
- 10. (previously presented) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 9, further comprising one or more amino acid substitutions selected from the group consisting of: R(1135)K, S(1148)G, S(1560)G, K(1691)R, L(1701)F, I(1984)V, T(1993)A, S(2404)P, L(2155)P, P(2166)L, and M(2992)T.
- 11. (previously presented) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 10, further comprising an amino acid substitution commonly designated as: E(1202)G.
- 12. (cancelled) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 9, further comprising an amino acid substitution commonly designated as: K(1691)R.
- 13. (cancelled) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 9, further comprising one or more amino acid substitutions selected from the group consisting of: commonly designated as R(1135)K, S(1560)G, K(1691)R, T(1993)A, and P(2166)L.

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- 14. (previously presented) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 11, wherein said substitution is selected from the group consisting of: E(1202)G, I(1984)V, G(2042)C, and M(2992)T.
- 15. (cancelled) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 11 wherein said substitution is selected from the group consisting of: S(1148)G, E(1202)G, L(1701)F, G(2042)R, and S(2404)P.
- 16. (previously presented) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 9, wherein said polynucleotide is a DNA molecule selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 25.
- 17. (previously presented) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 9, wherein said polynucleotide is an RNA molecule encoded by a DNA selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 25.

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Response dated February 2, 2007
Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated January 23, 2007

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3/10/2007

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    - (c) a 3'-Non Translated Region.
- 10. (currently amended) The HCV polynucleotide according to claim 9, further comprising one or more amino acid substitutions selected from the group consisting of: R(1135)K, S(1148)G, S(1560)G, K(1691)R, L(1701)F, I(1984)V, T(1993)A, S(2404)P, L(2155)P, P(2166)L, and M(2992)T.
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